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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 TRSE-00 SSO-00 PM-05 SP-02 SS-15
CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 EB-08 DODE-00 L-03 OMB-01
NSCE-00 INRE-00 /057 W
----------062869 201736Z /72
O 201705Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1130

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 2099

FROM AMBASSADOR TO SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY BLUMENTHAL

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EFIN, TU
SUBJ: CALL OF TURKISH FINANCE MINISTER ON SECRETARY OF TREASURY

1. I HAVE LEARNED THAT TURKISH FINANCE MINISTER ZIYA MUEZZINOGLU WISHES TO CALL ON YOU WHEN HE GOES BRIEFLY TO WASHINGTON THIS WEEK TO SIGN LETTER OF INTENT TO ENTER INTO STANDBY AGREEMENT WITH IMF. MINISTER LEAVES MARCH 21 AND EXPECTS TO RETURN TO ANKARA EASTER WEEKEND.

2. TURKISH EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON IS IN CHARGE OF ARRANGING THE CALL. WHILE THAT EMBASSY MAY WELL HAVE MATTER FULLY IN HAND, MINISTER'S OFFICE HAS NOT BEEN INFORMED OF TIME OF APPOINTMENT. PRUDENCE THEREFORE SUGGESTS TO ME THAT I MAKE SURE THAT YOU ARE AWARE OF THIS REQUEST.

3. I ENDORSE THE MEETING STRONGLY AS A MATTER IMPORTANT TO US/TURKISH RELATIONS. ALTHOUGH WITH LITTLE BASIS, TURKS ARE STILL SMARTING FROM WHAT PRIME MINISTER ECEVIT HAS PERCEIVED TO BE UNWARRANTED LINGKAGE BY SECRETARY VANCE, AND THEREFORE THE US ADMINISTRATION, OF DEFENSE COOPERATION
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AGREEMENT WITH TURKEY AND TURKISH MOVEMENT TOWARD SOLUTION OF CYPRUS PROBLEM.

4. MUEZZINOGLU WILL REGARD HIS MEETING WITH YOU AS FOLLOW-ON OF DISCUSSIONS HELD IN ANKARA LAST MONTH WITH STATE DEPARTMENT COUNSELOR MATTHEW NIMETZ AND HIS GROUP. I AM SURE THAT HE WILL BE ASKING WHTHER WE HAVE THOUGHT FURTHER ABOUT

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WHAT WE CAN DO FOR TURKEY. I THINK THAT IT WOULD BE USEFUL
TO HEAR FROM HIM WHAT MEANS TURKISH GOVERNMENT HAS DECIDED
UPON OR IS CONSIDERING FOR HANDLING ITS DOMESTIC ECONOMIC
AND FOREIGN PAYMENTS PROBLEMS, ONCE AGREEMENT IS REACHED WITH
IMF, AND WHAT CONSULTATIONS IT MAY HAVE HAD ON ECONOMIC
MATTERS WITH FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND OTHER GOVERNMENTS.

5. I WOULD, OF COURSE, BE MUCH INTERESTED IN SEEING THE
RECORD OF YOUR MEETING.

6. I HOPE TO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO TALK WITH YOU MYSELF
ABOUT POSSIBILITIES FOR HELPING TURKEY WHEN I AM IN
WASHINGTON FOR NATO MEETING THIRD WEEK OF APRIL.
SPIERS

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